

Emergency Response Section - District Office Investigation Report (DOIR)

Spill Id Number: 0707-07-2622

OSC: 1791 - SHERRON, MIKE

Spill Status: FINAL

Date Time
 Reported: 07/10/2007 15:47
 Discovered: 07/10/2007 15:40
 Occurred: 00/00/0000

Reported By: BRADY FASSELL
 Title:
 Affiliation: CITIZEN
 Telephone: (740) 238-1820 Extension:

Spill Location Information

County: BELMONT Latitude: 39-55-09.7 N
 City/TWP: WASHINGTON TWP Longitude: 80-59-34.3 W
 Location: 45940 E CAPTINA HWY
 Waterway: CAPTINA CREEK
 Length:
 Land Area:

Entity Information

Name/Company: OHIO VALLEY COAL COMPANY
 Address: 56854 PLEASANT RIDGE ROAD
 City: ALLEDONIA State: OH Zip Code: 43902
 Telephone: (000) 000-0000 Ext:
 SPCC Plan Req: SPCC Plan in Effect:

Entity Representatives

Name	Title	Phone	Extension
GEORGE STEVE	FOREMAN	(000) 000-0000	
DICK MEADOWS	PLANT MANAGER	(000) 000-0000	

Products Spilled

Product	Amount	UOM	Type
COAL SLURRY	.0	UNK	O

Source: FIXED FACILITY - INDUSTRY - WASTE SYSTEM
 Cause: DISCHARGE/BYPASS TREATMENT SYS
 Reason: CITIZEN COMPLAINT
 Media Affected: SURFACE WATER/STORM SEWERS

Other Contacts

Name	Title	Phone	Extension
JOHN PUTERBAUGH	INSPECTOR - ODNr	(000) 000-0000	
DAVID IVAN	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - BELMONT CO	(000) 000-0000	

Referrals

Person	Agency Name	Referral Date
ABBOTT STEVENSON	DIV SURFACE WATER WASTE WATER	07/11/2007

T-1 on 8/9/07

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Ohio Valley Coal Release July 10, 2007

At approximately 15:45 Ohio EPA's Emergency Response hotline received a complaint indicating that Captina Creek had been turned black by a release of wastewater from the slurry impoundment at Ohio Valley Coal. The Initial Pollution Incident Report was emailed from the Ohio EPA Duty Room to the Southeast District Office Division of Surface Water (DSW). Upon receipt of the report, Inspector Abbot Stevenson requested the assistance of the Emergency Response unit in investigating the complaint. Supervisor Lavelle assigned On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Sherron to begin the response at approximately 16:25.

OSC Sherron made contact with Mr. John Puterbaugh of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Mineral Resources Management. Mr. Puterbaugh advised that he would go to the reported location and begin investigating the complaint. OSC Sherron then made contact with the complainant, Mr. Brady Saffell, who advised that he was observing Captina Creek and the stream was dark in color and the snakes were leaving the water in the impacted section of the stream. OSC Sherron advised Belmont County Emergency Management Agency Deputy Director, David Ivan, of the reported release. OSC Sherron departed the Southeast District Office at approximately 17:24.

En route to the scene, OSC Sherron contacted the ODNR Division of Wildlife to advise of the release. OSC Sherron advised Belmont County Wildlife Officer Baker of the details of the release to date and that no fish kill had been reported. Officer Baker indicated that he would call back later in the evening after OSC Sherron had arrived on-scene for an update.

OSC Sherron received a call from Mr. Puterbaugh at approximately 19:00. Mr. Puterbaugh indicated that the release did not appear to be coal slurry. Mr. Puterbaugh advised that Mr. Meadows of the Ohio Valley Coal Company could explain the nature of the release. According to Mr. Meadows a pipe was being removed from the slurry impoundment when the heavy equipment operator inadvertently dug too deep into the impoundment wall causing the wall to release water from the slurry impoundment at a high rate. According to Mr. Meadows this high volume and high velocity release caused the increased turbidity observed by the complainant in Captina Creek. OSC Sherron continued to the scene.

OSC Sherron stopped to inspect Captina Creek at the bridge near the intersection of SR 148 and SR 9. At this location the water in the stream appeared clear from the bridge. At the Alledonia Memorial Bridge the water was visibly turbid and brown in color. OSC Sherron arrived at the Ohio Valley Coal Company's facility in Belmont County at approximately 21:00 and begin investigating the conditions in Captina Creek. Captina Creek downstream of the SR 148 bridge was very turbid and visibly cloudy. The stream bed and banks were observed to have a significant sediment deposit. The tributary stream on the upstream side of the bridge (approximately 50 feet) was running clear upon inspection. Further upstream the stream channel was observed to have less sediment.

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After inspecting the stream, OSC Sherron inspected the impoundment dike of Pond 10 and no active discharge was observed. OSC Sherron continued up the hill and made contact with Mr. George Steve of Ohio Valley Coal. After explaining the reason for the inspection, Mr. Steve showed OSC Sherron the impoundment and the location of the work that had been performed to remove the pipe earlier in the day. Mr. Steve then showed OSC Sherron the discharge pipe from the pond.

OSC Sherron observed an illegal open burn being conducted by Pine Ridge Synfuels and investigated this activity. The foreman of this operation indicated that the materials being burned were the sacks that they received process additives in. After explaining the open burning laws to the foreman of this facility, OSC Sherron continued the investigation of the initial complaint.

Mr. Steve and OSC Sherron traveled to the end of the pipe where the discharge from the pond daylighted into an open channel. Approximately 30 feet from this discharge pipe was a small pool that was observed to be dark grey in color. OSC Sherron collected a water sample from this location into a one-gallon cubitainer, photographed the pool and collected a GPS point. OSC Sherron advised Mr. Steve that the NPDES permit for the discharge from the impoundment requires that Ohio EPA be notified if the permit is violated.

OSC Sherron departed the Ohio Valley Coal Company facility at approximately 00:06 and received a follow up call from Officer Baker. OSC Sherron advised Officer Baker of the situation and the intent to have DSW staff follow up on the NPDES permit violations on the next business day. OSC Sherron began drafting the DOIR narrative and departed the area at approximately 0100.

Upon arrival at OSC Sherron's home, the photographs were downloaded and arranged for email transmission to Division of Surface Water staff for review.

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OSC Sherron discussed observations made during the July 10 - 11 response to Ohio Valley Coal Company with the Division of Surface Water inspector and supervisor.

August 9, 2007

OSC Sherron completed District Office Investigation Report (DOIR) and map.

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OSC: 1791 - SHERRON, MIKE

Response Date: 07/10/2007

Start Time: 16:30

End Time: 23:59

Total Mileage: 325.00

Time Code	Regular Time	Overtime	Total
0022	.0	7.5	7.5
Total Time:			7.5

OSC: 1791 - SHERRON, MIKE

Response Date: 07/11/2007

Start Time: 00:00

End Time: 05:30

Total Mileage:

Time Code	Regular Time	Overtime	Total
0022	.0	4.3	4.3
0100	.0	1.2	1.2
Total Time:			5.5

OSC: 1791 - SHERRON, MIKE

Response Date: 07/12/2007

Start Time: 15:00

End Time: 15:48

Total Mileage:

Time Code	Regular Time	Overtime	Total
0022	.8	.0	.8
Total Time:			.8

OSC: 1791 - SHERRON, MIKE

Response Date: 08/09/2007

Start Time: 11:48

End Time: 12:30

Total Mileage:

Time Code	Regular Time	Overtime	Total
0100	.7	.0	.7
Total Time:			.7

OSC: 1791 - SHERRON, MIKE

Response Date: 08/09/2007

Start Time: 15:30

End Time: 16:30

Total Mileage:

Time Code	Regular Time	Overtime	Total
0100	1.0	.0	1.0
Total Time:			1.0

Grand Total for this Spill: 15.5

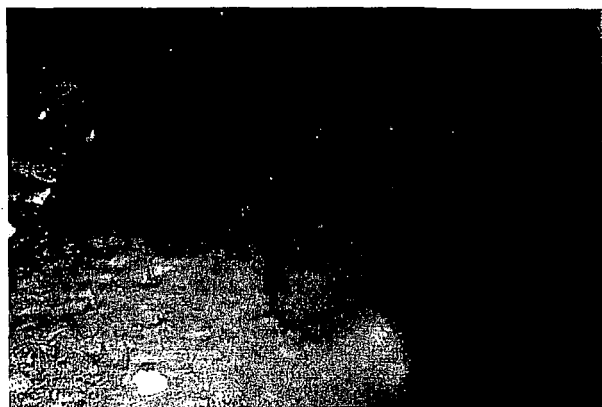
Ohio Valley Coal Complaint Investigation

July 10, 2007

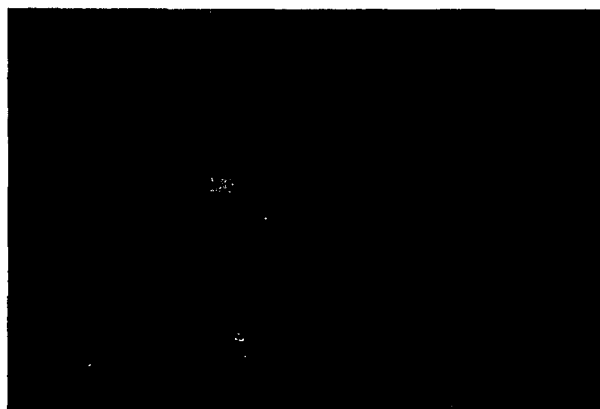
Spill Number: 0707-07-2622



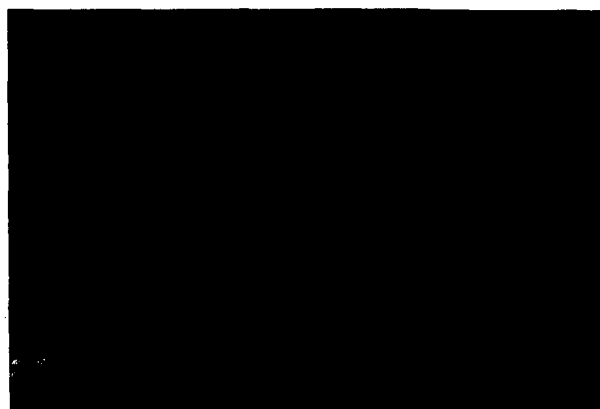
Photograph #1



Photograph #2



Photograph #3



Photograph #4

- Photograph #1: View of the outlet structure from the slurry impoundment. This outlet is reportedly piped directly to the discharge shown in photograph #3.
- Photograph #2: View of the color and turbidity of the water in Captina Creek under SR 148. Note the heavy sediment load on the bank. This was not observed upstream of this location.
- Photograph #3: View of the discharge pipe from the slurry impoundment.
- Photograph #4: View of the pool downstream of the discharge pipe shown in photograph #3. Note the much darker appearance of the water in comparison with photograph #2.